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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/986,077	11/07/2001	Takao Murakami	06753.0480	4727

7590 10/17/2002

Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow,
Garrett & Dunner, L.L.P.
1300 I Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3315

EXAMINER

DUVERNE, JEAN F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2839

DATE MAILED: 10/17/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/986,077

Applicant(s)

Murakami et al

Examiner
Jean Duverne

Art Unit
2839



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jan 16, 2002
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, and 4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 1-4 are objected to because of the following informalities: the terms "is inserted is protruded" as recited in claim 1 is confusing. The examiner interprets the terms "is inserted is protruded" as "is inserted" . Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --
(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wilson (US patent 4,533,200).

Wilson's device discloses a wire connector comprising a first connecting body from which a male (32) terminal protruded, and a second terminal connecting body from which the female terminal (44) to which the male terminal portion at the upper level is inserted, the second connecting body fitted to the first connecting body (see fig. 1); wherein the female terminal is formed in a fork shape having an opening (see fig. 3) arranged to oppose arranged to oppose the male terminal, and wherein an acute angle portion which bust through the coating body (see fig. 1) of a harness is provided between the tip end portions of the fork part, and a conductive wire (12, 12', 12'') connecting portion

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which grips a conductive wire portion of the harness which has been bust through by an acute angle portion (see fig. 2) is provided is provided between the base end portions of the fork part, and a terminal receptor to which the male terminal is inserted between the middle portion of the fork part. A disengagement preventing means at 62 holds the conductor in a fitted state between the first and second connecting body at 74.

Conclusion

3. Claim 3 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Prior art fails to disclose the combination features recited in claims 1 and 2 with the positioning means and the rotational limitation placed between the first and the second connecting body.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean Duverne whose telephone number is (703) 305 - 0297 . The examiner can normally be reached from 8:30 to 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild, can be reached on (703)308-2710. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308 - 7722.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

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should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

JFD

October 9, 2002



Jean F. Duverne

Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2839